



Pirate Princess

Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen , Jill McElmurry (Illustrator)

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Princess Bea isn't like other princesses—she prefers pirate ships above tea parties, the salty sea over silly dolls. But what's a landlocked princess to do?

Ahoy, Captain Jack to the rescue! When the captain offers Bea a place aboard his ship, it's a dream come true—until she's put to work swabbing the decks and making dinner for the crew. Can a princess like Bea put her royal gifts to work and make the pirates see that she's seaworthy after all—or will they make her walk the plank?

Pirate Princess is a raucous tale of girl power on the high seas, from author Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen and illustrator Jill McElmurry.

Pirate Princess Details

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Author : Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen , Jill McElmurry (Illustrator)

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Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Adventure, Pirates, Fairy Tales, Princesses

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From Reader Review Pirate Princess for online ebook

Erin Feller says

Personal reflection:

I liked this book because of its non traditional look at princesses. In my C&T 235 multiculturalism class we talked a lot about gender roles and I believe this is the perfect book to break those gender stereotypes. Most princess wear dresses, drink tea, and want to find their prince. Princess Bea just wants a life at sea.

Purpose:

I would read this book aloud to K-3rd graders for entertainment. This book had great vocabulary and rhythm. This would be a great book to read for entertainment because the pirate dialect allows the teacher to have fun with the voices and add to the overall story experience. The illustrations in this book have a lot of sideways and diagonals depicting movement.

Curriculum:

- read when starting a unit on Pirates, the dialect the book is written in would give a background to pirate life.
- read before a lesson on gender roles. Not every girl has to be a girly girl. You can be whatever you set your mind to-even a pirate!

Sunny says

This book is so interesting ,I think she was a pirate ,not a princesses .Bea really like pirates,she can be a captain.Bea's dream had come true. I love this book.

Jennifer says

The rhymes were a little much (using words like avast, swarthy, and displeasure). Normally, I like to pause and define a word here and there for the kids, but there's too many in this book and the rhythm is such that it would really detract from the story. I love the idea of a princess giving up the cushy princess life to pursue her dreams, but this might be a bit too convoluted for my preschool story time. I'll use it if I can't find anything better...but there's sure to be better stuff out there.

Ina says

Bea is not your usual princess when we first meet her she is standing on her head and she would rather read a book than wear fancy clothes and she has no interest in meeting a handsome prince. Bea does have a dream - she wants to be a pirate. One afternoon she comes across a pirate ship and convinces the crew that they should add her to their crew. She throws herself into being a pirate, but it is a struggle. Her first task, swabbing the deck, makes her shoulders sore and the mop is "really gross." She is next assigned to the galley, where she whips up an inedible stew. She gets seasick. Just when it seems like she is going to have to walk the plank, the pirates discover she has a gift for sniffing out treasure, and she is welcomed into the

pirate band. This story is filled with fun, great illustrations and a reminder that we all have gifts and talents.

Allie Sargent says

Summary: Princess Bea isn't like other princesses, she wasn't proper or refined, and instead of wanting to marry a prince, Bea wanted to be a pirate. Bea finds herself a pirate ship one day and goes aboard, much to the surprise of the crew. The captain, Jack, puts Bea to work doing several jobs around the ship such as cleaning the deck and cooking stew for the crew. However, Bea wasn't successful at any of these jobs, so the pirates decided it was time to send Bea overboard and make her walk the plank. Bea saves herself at the last minute by smelling gold off the coast, and proves herself useful to the crew by finding them treasure across the seven seas.

Themes: A theme of this book is breaking stereotypes and that just because you're a princess doesn't mean you have to do typical princess activities. This theme is able to be translated to everyday life, as it shows both girls and boys that you can be whoever you want to be.

Personal Response: I found this book very funny and cute as it showed Bea learning the pirate's way of life. I think this is a book many children would enjoy because it shows a fun lifestyle that many children think they are interested in. As a young child, I would have related to Bea because I wasn't a fan of doing typical "girly" activities till I was older. So I would have appreciated seeing a character in a book doing whatever it is she wants, no matter how it may be perceived by others.

Recommendation: I would recommend this book to young readers because it shows a non-traditional look at a princess. I think both boys and girls would enjoy the pirate aspect of this story and would find the story easy to read and entertaining.

Marcia says

Why are we still romanticizing piracy? Pirates are criminals- violent robbers, sometimes killers. I just don't get the appeal. A princess wants to be a PIRATE? And she has no skills at typical 'women's" work like cleaning and cooking.....which is all the pirates think she is good for. I always like a picture book written in rhyming verse, they are fun for read-alouds, but that is all this book has going for it.

Tyler Jones says

This book seemed to promise a challenge to gender stereotypes, and I was excited at the idea of having a strong girl book for my next story time. I was disappointed. The story follows a Princess who really wants to be a pirate. So far, so good. But when the girl joins up with a band of buccaneers, she finds herself forced to do typical "women's work." Does she rebel? Does she overcome her situation through cleverness and moxie? Nope. She simply proves inept. Her final victory, and what wins the crew over, is that as a rich girl she has a nose for treasure. Ugh. This ain't Princess Smarypants on the high seas, I'm sorry to say.

L.E. Fidler says

wow, tough crowd, goodreads readers!

my kids LOVE this book.

"mommy, can we read the pirate princess?!?!?" they clamor at bedtime.
even dada likes the charming tale of princess bea who sucks at the traditional female spheres of cooking and cleaning (and not throwing up on a ship) but who excels at one key aspect of piracy:

treasure hunting.

it's quick, cute, and nicely illustrated.

a better message than pinkalicious's bratty "i got very upset", too.

Marj says

This was a fun, rhyming book, but our princess doesn't have to work to develop any pirating skills. She relies on an inherent talent and that dropped it a bit. That said, the illustrations are clever and I love the pirate captain's bright hair/beard.

Sandy says

I thought this might be a cute, pirate children's book geared towards little girls and well, I was half right. It was a pirate book but I didn't think it was cute by the time I was finished. This book was exhausting as I felt it went on and on and on with its rhyming. I think the novel would have worked better for me had parts of the book been written in rhyme and other parts written in regular text. The rhyming felt forced after a while and I just didn't care if Princess Bea got to be a pirate or not.

Princess Bea is not your typical princess. She doesn't dress fancy nor is she waiting for a prince to whisk her. Princess Bea wants the adventurous life of a pirate. She realizes she needs a pirate's crew to be a pirate and one day, she spots a pirate ship while walking and she jumps onboard. She'll do anything to stay on ship, so the captain gives her some jobs which, she is not successful at. Princess Bea doesn't complain about the tasks nor at how she can't be productive because she's happy to be on the ship. The captain has finally had enough and he makes Princess Bea walk the plank for all the trouble that she is creating. But wait, Princess Bea notices something and this just might be what saves her.

There were a few things that I didn't like about this children's book besides all the rhyming. I was surprised at all the difficult words that were inside it, words like brocade, curtsied, Avast, swarthy, wench, and keen. Some children might know/understand these words and some might not. This is something to consider. I also wasn't too thrilled when Princess Bea's "heave-hoed into the ocean." Between those words and the illustrations that followed, it was a bit too much for me. I did like Princess Bea's determination about being a

pirate, for she makes a good role model. I liked the illustrations of the crew (both males and females). It was funny watching the cats in the illustrations too, for them seemed to be getting in on the book's action.

Maria says

Princess Bea dreams about being a pirate, but when she finally gets to the sea she learns that being a pirate is a lot of work.

Why I started it: Ran across it in the library.

Why I finished it: I liked the fact that piracy wasn't all fun and games, there were chores and consequences. Fun rhymes.

Luisa Knight says

Ages: 4 - 8

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Melissa says

I opened up this princess tale

And sighed a thousand times.

It's sad but true: I do not need

ANOTHER book that rhymes.

Megan M says

Cute rhyming, but I was just really unimpressed with the story of Princess Bea, who longs to be a pirate but isn't *quite* skilled enough. I couldn't help but wonder what happened to her family back home?

Kristen Dutkiewicz says

A princess who would rather be a pirate.
Okay, but could have been better.
